## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 242

## By Reeves

A RESOLUTION to commemorate July 3, 2021, as Indian Christian Day (Yeshu Bhakti Divas) in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, July 3, 2021, launches the Decade of Celebration (2021-2030) to honor the 2,000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ministry of Lord Jesus Christ, whose teaching and life principles have helped to shape and transform India; and

WHEREAS, the followers of Lord Jesus of Indian descent, one of the oldest Christian traditions in the world, celebrate the person and message of Jesus Christ that was brought to India in 52 A.D. by Saint Thomas, the Apostle of India; and

WHEREAS, in celebrating July 3, 2021, which is historically venerated as St. Thomas

Day to commemorate the martyrdom of the Apostle in 72 A.D. near Madras (Chennai), Indian

Christians seek to preserve their identity within the Indian cultural heritage, while uniting with all who wish to celebrate, irrespective of language, custom, creed, or religion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commemorate July 3, 2021, as Indian Christian Day (Yeshu Bhakti Divas) in Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.